Duty with nil additional duty. Further, as per Excise Notification No. 4/2006-C.E. dated 1-3-2006, certain AIDS drugs are exempted from excise Duty as well. This Department has recommended that some more Anti-AIDS medicaments (bulk drugs and formulations) should also be exempted from Custom & Central Excise Duty so that these medicines could be made available to the patients at a cheaper price.

Use of gas as feed stock by fertilizer companies

1206. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) how many fertilizer companies are getting gas as their feed stock;

(b) the details of companies that are getting gas as feed stock and its quantum and actual consumption, and

(c) whether the fertilizer companies would import gas for their captive consumption, if so, the names of the companies which import gas, the quantum of gas imported and the country from which it is being imported along with the rates thereof for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) A total number of 12 fertilizer companies are receiving are receiving gas and utilizing gas as feedstock at 14 locations.

(b) The gas supply position to the fertilizer companies during 2005-06 is given in the table below.

(in MMSCMD)

Sl. No.	Name of the company	Actual average supply during 2005-06
1.	GSFC, Vadodara	1.591
2.	IFFCO, Kalol	1.103
3.	IFFCO, Aonla (I & II)	2.998
4.	RCF, Trombay	1.069
5.	RCF, Thal	2.068

1	2	3
6.	KSFL-Shahjahanpur	1.860
7.	Indo-Gulf, Jagdishpur	1.709
8.	NFL, Vijaipur (I & II)	3.205
9.	NFCL, Kakinada (I & II)	1.898
10.	TCL, Babrala	1.663
11.	KRIBHCO, Hazira	3.716
12.	CFCL, Gadepan-I&II	2.995
13.	DFPCL-Taloja*	0.404
14.	BVFCL, Namrup	1.385
	TOTAL:	27.664

*2004-05 data

(c) Fertilizer companies do not have facilities to import gas directly. Fertilizer companies are using re-gasified liquefied natural gas (R-LNG) imported by Petronet LNG Limited from Rasgas, Quatar and marketed by GAIL (India) Limited, Indian Oil Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited. Supplies of R-LNG commenced w.e.f. 1.4.2005 and actual average supply to fertilizer units during 2005-06 was 7.420 MMSCMD. The delivered price of R-LNG being supplied to fertilizer units is US$ 5 per Million British Thermal Unit (MMBTU) approximately.

Shortage of gases in fertilizer plants

1207. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fertilizer plants are facing gas shortage and the industry has approached the Prime Minister in the matter;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to gas shortage, the fertilizer plants have been using other costly fuels, thus affecting the revenue of the industry; and